

To: OSWER OSRTI Everyone[OSWER_OSRTI_Everyone@epa.gov]
From: Skelton, Marcus
Sent: Fri 9/18/2015 11:13:59 AM
Subject: Bi-Weekly Report - Week Ending: 09/18/2015

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Region 8

Gold King Mine Site, Durango, CO. ERT continues to provide technical support at the Gold King

Mine Site, in Durango, Colorado. ERT assistance has been with water treatment, rapid field water analysis, evaluation of options for potential actions on irrigation canals, and overall operational support. ERT is also assisting with the samplers and the GIS group, verifying sample locations and making results available to the residents and the Incident Command.

Health & Safety Officer, Unit Command Incident Management Team. Brian Kovak arrived in Durango on September 5 to serve as Health and Safety Officer through September 15. He will be replaced by Lindsay K. Nguyen (ERT-Las Vegas) on September 14.

AC Environmental Unit Leader. In this position, David Kappelman is reviewing data and data management protocols with focus on transitioning the data management role from the emergency response phase of operations into one Incident Command when response efforts are downsized. David will be replaced by Ed Gilbert (TIFSD/Technology Assessment Branch on September 9.

Off-site Engineering/Contract Management. Greg Powell and Tom Kady, as part of the technical evaluation team, developed bid evaluation matrices and facilitated technical review of proposals to treat adit discharge water over the winter season. The top three vendors were interviewed to evaluate timeliness and technical competence. Recommendations were provided to the Region, based upon the interviews. Award is expected during the week of September 14, and the system will be operational by October 2015. Tom Kady completed and delivered the summary of the technical reviews for discharge water treatments to the Region to assist in final decisions for the selection of the treatment system.

Animas Valley Aquifer Evaluation, Durango, New Mexico, Off Site. Greg Powell and Gary Newhart are evaluating groundwater data from hundreds of wells sampled north and south of Durango. Gary is now in Durango assisting with the groundwater and hydrology issues for Region 8. Some wells have MCL exceedances, background levels of metals in aquifer system appears high. Many wells are with water softeners and reverse osmosis systems. Properly constructed wells are not likely to have been impacted by fast moving surface water slug from release. Future actions are being evaluated. Greg Powell spoke with Region 8 regarding flocculant addition for the emergency response water treatment on site. The request for information was from the Assistant Administrator's Office. Greg explained that there are many difficulties applying treatment dosages in the field. A realistic explanation was provided. (Contacts: ERT – Gregory W. Powell, 513-569-7537; Gary P. Newhart, 514-470-8662; David W. Charters, 732-906-6825; Henry Gerard, 702-784-8009; David J. Kappelman, 513-487-2886; Brian G. Kovak, 732-321-6609; Mark D. Sprenger, 732-906-6826; Thomas M. Kady, 732-906-6172. Region 8 – Steven Merritt, OSC, 303-312-6146)

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